



November 1, 2013

Dear Senator:

I hope all is well. In an effort to proactively communicate our position on legislation before the Senate Committee on Energy and Technology, this letter is to indicate that the Michigan League of Conservation Voters opposes Senate Bill 314, a bill that would repeal the current ban on disposal of yard waste in landfills.

If passed, Senate Bill 314 will negatively impact Michigan's air quality. It will allow for an increase in landfill waste which will result in the release of more methane and other harmful gasses into the environment. The increased volume of landfill waste will also likely result in more landfills being cited in communities statewide. Eliminating the current yard waste ban will not only have an adverse effect on Michigan's environment, but also our economy and job market. It will harm the composting industry, undermine small businesses and increase landfill disposal costs for Michigan citizens.

Michigan must remain a safe and healthy place for our families and the millions of visitors who travel here each year to experience our pristine, outdoor environment. Because of this, we cannot afford to jeopardize our air quality and open the door to more landfills in our communities. Instead of repealing this ban, Michigan LCV would prefer to see a focus on comprehensive recycling and reuse of yard waste materials. On behalf of Michigan LCV and our statewide network of almost 90,000 members, I strongly urge you to oppose this legislation.

Please feel free to contact myself or Alicia Prygoski, our legislative assistant, with questions for more information.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Schmitt", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Jack Schmitt
Michigan LCV Deputy Director

Michigan LCV is the leading non-partisan political voice for protecting Michigan's land, air and water.

3029 Miller Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 | 734-222-9650 | www.michiganlcv.org